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INCOMING SAN SALVADOR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE
BT

UNCLAS STATE 038104

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: CASC, (SULLIVAN, JOHN J., JR.)

SUBJECT: DISAPPEARANCE OF JOHN J. SULLIVAN, JR.

AS PROMISED IN MY JANUARY 27 LETTER, FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED TEXT OF LETTER TO CONGRESSWOMAN ROUKEMA REGARDING DISAPPEARANCE OF JOHN SULLIVAN FOR YOUR CLEARANCE.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MRS. ROUKEMA:

1. THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO YOUR LETTER TO ME OF JANUARY 11, AND YOUR LETTER TO THE SECRETARY DATED JANUARY 15, BOTH REGARDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOHN J. SULLIVAN, JR.

2. FIRST LET ME SAY THAT I WELCOMED THE CHANCE TO MEET WITH YOU AND THE SULLIVAN FAMILY ONCE AGAIN ON JANUARY 26. I BELIEVE THAT IN A CASE AS TRAGIC, SENSITIVE AND COMPLEX AS THE SULLIVAN DISAPPEARANCE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR WE WHO ARE DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO GET TOGETHER, COMPARE NOTES, AND EXAMINE ANY REAL AND PERCEIVED PROBLEMS. I THINK THE MEETING WAS USEFUL, AND ALTHOUGH I KNOW IT SHED NO NEW LIGHT ON JOHN'S DISAPPEARANCE, I HOPE IT WAS OF SOME BENEFIT TO YOU AND THE SULLIVAN FAMILY.

3. MOST OF THE ISSUES RAISED IN YOUR TWO LETTERS WERE, I BELIEVE, DISCUSSED IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL AT THE MEETING. I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL, HOWEVER, TO REITERATE MY UNDERSTANDING OF WHERE WE ARE AT PRESENT ON THE MAJOR ISSUES. AS YOU POINT OUT, THE SO-CALLED FIRST LETTER RECEIVED BY THE WASHINGTON POST IN OCTOBER WAS PURSUED BY THE EMBASSY AND THE DEPARTMENT, BUT TO DATE IT HAS LED TO NOTHING OTHER THAN AN EXTORTION ATTEMPT. THIS DOES CAST SERIOUS DOUBT ON THE WRITER'S MOTIVE.

4. IT WAS THIS LETTER, AND THIS LETTER ONLY, THAT AMBASSADOR HINTON REFERRED TO IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRESS IN SAN SALVADOR ON JANUARY 18. AS YOU GW FROM THE TEXT OF HIS ACTUAL STATEMENTS THAT I GAVE YOU AT OUR MEETING, THE ENSUING PRESS REPORT THAT HE WAS REFERRING TO THE AUTHOR OF THE

MAR 1 3 1984

REVIEWED BY DATE

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

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